

**City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women
Minutes of August 4, 2005**

Commissioners Present: Jillian Kinzie, Dorothy Saltzman, Cathi Crabtree, Debra Vance. **Staff Present:** Craig Brenner, Liaison, Lee Bowlen, and Regina Harlig, Intern, City of Bloomington Community and Family Resources Department. **Guests Present:** Regina Moore, Bloomington City Clerk; Alisa Brown, Budget and Research Manager, City of Bloomington Controller's Office.

1. Meeting called to order by Jillian Kinzie at 5:50 p.m.

Debra Vance was welcomed as an official member of the Commission; she was appointed by the Mayor to complete the term of Hannia Burke-Agüero, who moved out of state.

2. Request for Additional Agenda Items. Regina added one item under New Business:

B. Tracking Board and Commission Applications.

3. Approval of June 9, 2005 Meeting Minutes: Cathi made a motion to approve; Dottie seconded. Minutes were approved as written.

4. Old Business

A. Data Report. Regina Harlig continues to work on the Health section of the Commission's Report on the Status of Women in Bloomington and Monroe County. In the report she has described the sources used and included information about what she was able to find/not find. She has e-mailed her recommendations to Jillian. Regina will continue to work on the report for two more weeks and she will see that Craig and Lee get copies of the sections that are ready to be published. Regina will be leaving town late August. The group thanked Regina for her work on the report.

Craig offered to contact Bev Smith, MCCSC Human Resources staff, to see if she would be willing to assist in getting data for the Education section of the report. He will invite Bev to attend a commission meeting.

B. Women's Leadership Development. October 6th and October 20th are still being considered as possible dates for this event.

C. Women-Friendly Workplace Survey. At the end of June, surveys were sent to 88 Chamber of Commerce member businesses with 25-50 employees; 17 completed surveys have been returned. Out of that 17, four businesses are now reporting more than 50 employees so their data will be included in the sample of businesses with 50 or more employees. The response rates are 16% for businesses with 25-50 employees; 21% for businesses with 50 or more employees. The survey of businesses with 50 or more employees was initiated earlier, and a second mailing to non-responders has been completed.

Lee distributed copies of data obtained from businesses with 50 or more employees. She will present a report at the September meeting based on information obtained from both the small

and large employer samples. The group asked that surveys be re-sent to businesses that haven't responded. Jillian will prepare a letter to be included with the surveys that are re-sent.

- D. Wage Equity Forum.** Jillian spoke with John Clower and he is trying to identify a process to gather data for a wage equity review. John is trying to identify a person who could put together a workshop for businesses to use for wage/gender equity review.

5. New Business

- A. Women's History Month Lunch – March 8, 2006.** This date is reserved with the convention center. Those present discussed the possibility of using a different format for next year such as having a lunch and adding an evening event which might include art, films, speakers, etc. The committee currently has a tentative arrangement with the Bloomington Story Teller's Guild to do the program for the lunch.

Jillian said she will contact organizations that have been involved with this event in the past. The purpose of the contact is gather feedback on the format and to find out if there is interest in scheduling different types of events, venues.

- B. Tracking board and commission applications.** Regina reported that she has pulled out all the applications she has received since 1996. She has an intern separating the applications by commission applied for and by applicant. As a result of this she will be able to produce some data and/or a report based on the applications in her files. Mayor Kruzan has agreed that all applications are to go through the City Clerk's office versus some of them going through the Employee Services Department and other departments. Regina's office is putting applications on a spreadsheet by commission, and this information, along with a copy of the applications, will be provided to the commission if requested. Regina met with Pete Giordano and Craig to discuss ways the City can be more responsive to citizens who apply for appointments on boards and commissions. As a result of the meeting her office will send an updated letter to all applicants inviting them to attend meetings of the board or commission for which they have applied.

- 6. Mail Report.** Jillian took two items on the topic of women's health for further review.

- 7. Adjournment.** Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted by Peg Bassett.

NOTE: Regina and Cathi announced that the **Women's Equality Day Dinner Celebrating the 85th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage**, sponsored by The Monroe County Democratic Women's Caucus, will be held on Friday, August 26th at 6:00 p.m. at Phi Delta Kappa. Those interested in attending should contact Rose Mahern, 333-1904 or via email at rmmahern@aol.com, or they may visit www.democraticwomenscaucus.org.